

II. Remarks/Arguments

The instant case is a continuation of a patent application that has since issued as a U.S. patent, which is a divisional of a patent application that has also since issued as a U.S. patent. The “Cross Reference to Related Application” paragraph has been updated accordingly. No new matter has been added.

III. Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Specification

On page 1, lines 7-10:

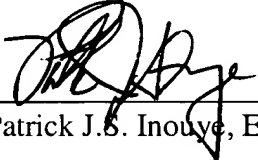
Cross-Reference to Related Application

[This patent application is a continuation of U.S. patent application, Serial No. 09/686,713, filed October 10, 2000, pending, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent No. 6,221,011, issued April 24, 2001, the priority filing dates of which are claimed and the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference.] This patent application is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 6,277,072, issued August 21, 2001, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent No. 6,221,011, issued April 24, 2001, the priority filing dates of which are claimed and the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference.

Entry of the foregoing preliminary amendment is requested and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. Please contact the undersigned at (206) 381-3900 regarding any questions or concerns associated with the present matter

Respectfully submitted,

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